

RECOGNITION OF CORPORAL
FOREST JOSTES

HON. JOHN SHIMKUS

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 6, 2004

Mr. SHIMKUS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the life of Corporal Forest Jostes who recently was killed in action fighting for freedom in Iraq.

Corporal Jostes was a 21-year-old from Albion, Illinois who served as an Army Corporal with the 1st Battalion, 1st Cavalry Division from Ft. Hood, Texas. He was a 2000 graduate of Edwards County High School, after which he joined the National Guard at the age of 17. He had only been in Iraq for about a week, when military personnel say his Humvee was hit by a rocket-propelled grenade, killing Jostes and the driver, in a suburb of Baghdad.

Corporal Jostes is survived by his parents, Von and Diane Ibbotson; a sister, Michelle Lee Teeter; two brothers Benjamin L. Jostes and Evan R. Ibbotson; and his grandparents, John and Laura Ibbotson, Glen and Darlene Kellison and Norman and Shirley Costley. I am proud of the service this young man has given to our country and the service he and others are doing everyday. Not enough can be said about Corporal Jostes and our other brave men and women who are serving in Iraq. It is troops like him that are risking their lives every day to ensure our freedom here at home and to others throughout the rest of the world. I salute him and my best wishes go out to his family and all the troops fighting to ensure freedom and democracy.

PAYING TRIBUTE TO KAREN
OSBORN

HON. SCOTT MCINNIS

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 6, 2004

Mr. MCINNIS. Mr. Speaker, I would like to take this opportunity to pay tribute to Karen Osborn of Fruita, Colorado for her dedication to the students of Fruita Monument High School. In her position as activities secretary, Karen has worked to improve the lives of the community's youth by helping to expand the range of activities and the students' ability to participate in them.

Karen began her career in the school system as a room mother at Shelledy Elementary, and moved on to become attendance secretary at Fruita Monument High School in 1985. The following year she moved over to the athletics department as activities secretary. Over her years in this position Karen has seen many changes, from the introduction of girls' soccer, the change from typewriters to computers, and the graduation of her own three children. In addition to her extensive administrative duties, Karen has taken on many responsibilities above and beyond the duties of her job, including coaching the cheerleading squad and preparing food for various tournaments hosted by Fruita Monument.

Mr. Speaker, I am honored to bring the service of Karen Osborn to the attention of this body of Congress and this nation. She

has done much to enrich the lives of the students at Fruita Monument High School, and I sincerely thank her for her service.

EXPRESSING SENSE OF CONGRESS
REGARDING ARBITRARY DETEN-
TION OF DR. WANG BINGZHANG

SPEECH OF

HON. SHEILA JACKSON-LEE

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 5, 2004

Ms. JACKSON-LEE of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in strong support of H. Con. Res. 326 which calls for the release of Dr. Wang Bingzhang by the Chinese government. I would like to thank my distinguished colleague from California, Representative GRACE NAPOLITANO for bringing this important matter to the floor. I stand in agreement with this resolution in which it states that the release of Dr. Wang should be a priority of United States foreign policy in relation to China.

Dr. Wang is a known pro-democracy advocate, who has supported only peaceful means to bring about change. The idea that the Chinese government has arrested him in connection with their new anti-terrorism laws is ludicrous. There is no credible proof that Dr. Wang is a terrorist or has planned any terrorist activities. His only crime has been to be a vocal critic of a government he believed to be restrictive of personal freedoms. I cannot think of a greater irony than the fact that Dr. Wang's arrest and detention is clear proof of the charges he leveled against the Chinese government. Our nation would never allow a man to be detained simply for holding an opposing view. While we cannot tell other independent nations how to govern themselves, and while nations retain the right to make arrests and protect their homeland, we still have a moral imperative to speak out when nations take egregious actions against innocent individuals. It is clear that Dr. Wang is innocent and he is being made to suffer simply because of his political opinions. I state the fact again, that no credible evidence has been presented to show that Dr. Wang took part in any violent or terroristic actions against the Chinese government. His sentence of life in prison is undoubtedly harsh and unjustified. His currently deteriorating health condition means that this life sentence is instead a death sentence. Again, I stress that the Chinese government has the right to run its justice system as it sees fit, but this is truly an egregious case of miscarried justice.

Dr. Wang is a permanent resident of the United States and has lived here with his family for many years. I can only imagine the stress and anguish his family is feeling now, not knowing the fate of their loved one. I congratulate again the sponsors of this concurrent resolution for bringing this case to light. We must fight cases of miscarried justice abroad the same way we would if they occurred here in the United States. Otherwise we will set a bad precedent for the proper use of the judicial system and the means that governments have to punish true criminals.

CAMPAIGN FOR AFRICAN
AMERICAN ACHIEVEMENT DAY

HON. JULIA CARSON

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 6, 2004

Ms. CARSON of Indiana. Mr. Speaker, I proudly rise to designate in Congress, May 8, 2004, as the "Campaign for African American Achievement Day." This special occasion has been inspired by both the infinite potential of our African American youth and the commitment of the National Urban League.

The Campaign for African American Achievement is a national program administered by the Urban League. Out of 115 Urban League affiliates across the country, 20 are chosen to implement the program. I am proud to represent one of the districts selected to participate in this honorable campaign, the great city of Indianapolis, IN.

Under the program's goals, the Indianapolis Urban League works to support the academic achievement and challenges facing children in Marion County, IN. The League hosts a yearly educational summit for parents and students as well as a college financial aid workshop. It also organizes college tours, scholarship essay contests and membership in the National Achievers Society; a national honors society for talented students of color who obtain a GPA of 3.0 or higher.

On May 8th, the Indianapolis chapter will be conducting its seventh induction ceremony for the National Achievers Society (NAS). Honors students participating in the induction ceremony and in other activities of the Campaign for African-American Achievement, will qualify to be considered for one of 40, four-year, \$10,000 scholarships to be awarded in the spring of 2005.

I commend the National Urban League and the affiliate Indianapolis Urban League chapter for their continued commitment to the positive development of our youth. I ask that you join me in honoring both the organization and the students by designating May 8th as the "Campaign for African American Achievement Day."

TRIBUTE TO MARY MCGRORY

HON. MARTIN T. MEEHAN

OF MASSACHUSETTS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 6, 2004

Mr. MEEHAN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to Mary McGrory. Mary McGrory was known for her strong opinions, which were liberal without equivocation or apology. But when I think of Mary, I will always remember her as a newspaper reporter, who gathered facts the old-fashioned way: by watching events and taking notes, staking out meetings of congressional leadership to be the first to get an interview, and relentlessly working the phones.

When she received a press club award in 1998, Mary said, "I should confess that I always felt a little sorry for people who didn't work for newspapers." We shared a deep love of both politics and print journalism, and I think her commitment to reporting is what set her work apart from her peers. At a time when commentators often try to substitute spin and